

***Draba lonchocarpa* Rydb. var. *vestita* Schulz**

lance-fruited draba  
Brassicaceae (Mustard Family)

**Status:** State Review Group 1

**Rank:** G4T3SNR

**General Description:** Adapted from Hitchcock et al. (1964) and Douglas et al. (1998): *Draba lonchocarpa* var. *vestita* is an ash-colored, tufted perennial from a taproot. The tufted stems are 3/8 in. to 4-3/4 in. (1-12 cm) tall and often felt-like and woolly with star-like hairs. This variety has 1 or 2 stem leaves usually greater than 1/16 in. (2 mm) wide. The rest of the leaves are basal, narrow, and linear to somewhat egg-shaped. They are 3/16 in. to less than 5/8 in. (0.5-1.5 cm) long, up to 3/16 in. (1-5 mm) wide, densely felt-like and woolly with star-like hairs, and have toothed margins. The midribs are firm and withering, but persistent. The inflorescences are 3 to 15 flowered with white petals 1/16 to 1/8 in. (2.5-4 mm) long. The dry, dehiscent fruit is linear to elliptic or narrowly oblong, somewhat contorted, and hairless to star-like hairy. The fruits are 1/4 in. to 1/2 in. (7-12 mm) long and less than 1/15 in. (1-2 mm) broad. The fruiting stalks are shorter than the fruits.

**Identification Tips:** Other species of *Draba* that occur in similar habitat in Clallam County, Washington are *D. brewerii*, *D. crassifolia*, *D. incerta*, *D. lonchocarpa* var. *lonchocarpa*, and *D. paysonii*. Of these, only *D. brewerii* and *D. lonchocarpa* var. *lonchocarpa* have white flowers like those of *D. lonchocarpa* var. *vestita*. These three plants may be distinguished by their stem leaves. *D. lonchocarpa* var. *lonchocarpa* has no stem leaves, *D. brewerii* has 1 to 10 stem leaves that are not toothed, and *D. lonchocarpa* var. *vestita* has 1 or 2 stem leaves that are minutely toothed. A technical key is recommended for identifying this species.

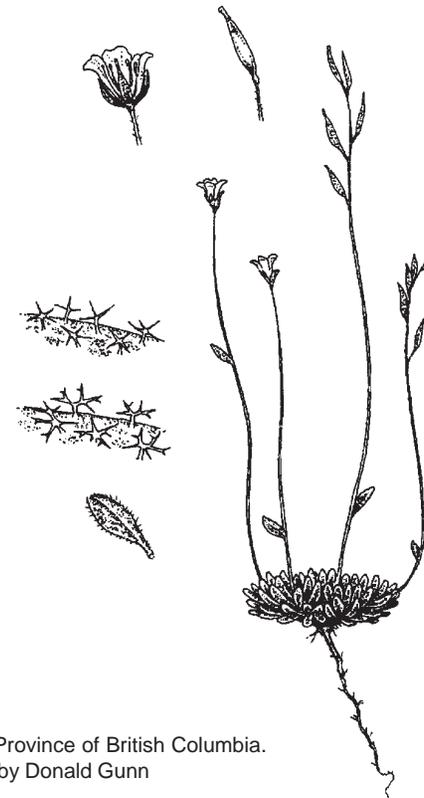
**Phenology:** This taxon blooms from June through August in Washington.

**Range:** *Draba lonchocarpa* var. *vestita* occurs from Alaska southward in the Cascades and Rocky Mountains to the Olympic Mountains in Clallam County, Washington, and south to northeast Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, and Colorado.

**Habitat:** This taxon may be found in sub-alpine to alpine talus and rock crevices, and was found in Washington at an elevation of 5375 feet (1600 m).

***Draba lonchocarpa* var. *vestita***

Lance-fruited draba



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Illustration by Donald Gunn

Known distribution  
of *Draba lonchocarpa*  
var. *vestita*  
in Washington



- Current (1980+)
- Historic (older than 1980)

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**Ecology:** The rocky exposed sites and high elevation in which this species occurs may lower the occurrence of competitive species.

**State Status Comments:** There are less than five occurrences of this species in Washington. Because *Draba lonchocarpa* var. *vestita* was recently added to the Washington rare plant list, not much is known about the degree of its rarity in the state at this time.

**Inventory Needs:** Appropriate habitat in sites adjacent to known occurrences should be investigated.

**Threats and Management Concerns:** Threats to this species appear to be relatively low.

**Comments:** This species is also known as *Draba lonchocarpa* Rydb. var. *denudata* O.E. Schulz and *Draba nivalis* Lilj. var. *denudata* O.E. Schulz, but it can be found as *D. lonchocarpa* var. *vestita* in Hitchcock (1964).

**References:**

Douglas, G.W., G.B. Straley, D. Meidinger, and J. Pojar. 1993. *Illustrated Flora of British Columbia* vol. 2: *Dicotyledons (Balsaminaceae Through Cuscutaceae)*. Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Victoria, British Columbia. 475 pp.

Hitchcock, C.L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, J.W. Thompson. 1964. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest Part 2: Salicaceae to Saxifragaceae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA. 597 pp.

Kartesz, J.T. 2004. *Synthesis of North American Flora*. Phylcosystems Corporation. Version 1.996.